too far, it will be recognized as a taking." Pennsylvania Coal Co. v. Mahon, 260 U.S. 393, 415 (1922). The Commission's rate structure is a clear case in which a government agency has gone too far. The Supreme Court defined the point at which a rate regulation has gone too far in FPC v. Hope Natural Gas Co., 320 U.S. 591, 603 (1944):

It is important that there be enough revenue not only for operating expenses but also for the capital costs of the business. These include service on the debt and dividends on the stock.

The return, therefore, "should be sufficient to assure confidence in the financial integrity of the enterprise, so as to maintain its credit and to attract capital." <u>Id.</u> Moreover, even if the agency's choices underlying the rate regulation can be deemed reasonable, those choices must still add up to a reasonable result. <u>Jersey Cent. Power & Light Co. v. F.E.R.C.</u>, 810 F.2d 1168, 1178 (D.C. Cir. 1987).

The end result of the Commission's rate regulations is completely unreasonable. The regulations do not achieve the requisite Fifth Amendment balance between "the investor interest in maintaining financial integrity and access to capital markets and the consumer interest in being charged non-exploitative rates."

Jersey Cent., 810 F.2d at 1178. Even the Commission itself has acknowledged that the benchmark will not enable all operators to

recover the costs of providing service or enable them to attract capital. Meanwhile, the cost-of-service provisions violate the 1992 Act as well as the Constitution and do not provide a viable alternative to the benchmark.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Parties listed in Attachment A hereto respectfully request that the Commission amend the cable television rate regulations as set forth herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 21, 1993

Attachment A

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Harmon & Company Helicon Corporation Hook Enterprises Hurst Communications Jayroc Cablevision Kingwood Cablevision McDonald Management, Inc. McDonald Group, Inc. Masada Cable Partners North Coast Cable OCB Cablevision Pennsylvania Classic Cable SATCOM, Inc. Savage Communications Schuylkill Valley Trans-Video Selkirk Communications, Inc. Shen-Heights TV Associates Sjoberg's Cable Television Starstream Communications Sutton Capitol Associates Sweetwater Television Company Telecom Associates Twin County Trans-Video United Video Cablevision, Inc. Van Buren TV Cable Corp. Wander Telecommunications Western Cablesystems, Inc. Zylstra Communications

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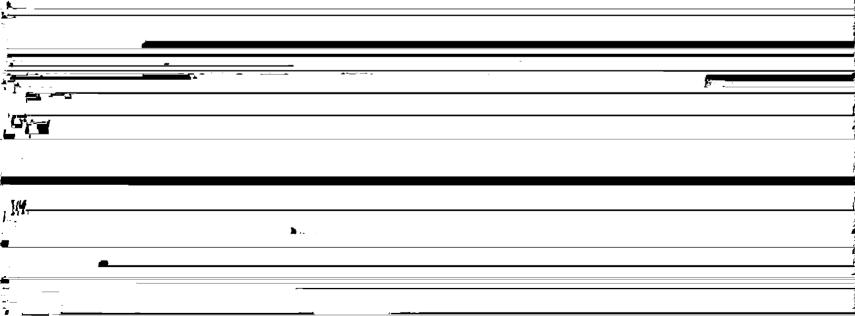
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